

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100631

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:THWALSH/OIH:OKORSHIN:MEM

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R 150139Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, US, TBIO

SUBJECT: HEALTH AGREEMENT: PROBLEM OF GIARDIASIS IN USSR

REFERENCE: MOSCOW 363L

GENEVA PLEASE PASS TO DR. S. PAUL EHRLICH JR., MEMBER USDEL
TO WHO, FROM KORSHIN

1. ON MAY 1 OIH SENT TELEX MESSAGE TO MINHEALTH USSR, SAY-
ING THAT CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL WOULD BE PLEASED TO
ACCEPT BURGASOV'S INVITATION, MADE PRIVATELY AND IN AN
APRIL 25 LETTER TO THE WASHINGTON POST, TO SEND US EXPERTS
TO LENINGRAD TO ASCERTAIN EXCELLENCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

2. ON MAY 8 MINHEALTH SENT TELEX TO OIH SAYING THAT
QUOTE BURGASOV REAFFIRMS HIS INVITATION UNQUOTE THAT, AT
THE TIME OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN MOSCOW, DISCUS-
SIONS BE HELD WITH DR. SENCER. THIS IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT
INVITATION FROM THAT ORIGINALLY EXTENDED BY BURGASOV.

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3. MAY 12 NEW YORK TIMES QUOTES INTERVIEW BY SOVIET FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEEKLY NEW TIMES WITH BURGASOV, IN WHICH BURGASOV QUOTED AS SAYING: QUOTE APPARENTLY SOMEONE IN THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT LIKE DEVELOPING COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BETWEEN SOVIET AND AMERICAN SCIENTISTS. UNQUOTE. NEW TIMES ARTICLE GOES ON TO IMPLY THAT ARTICLES

IN US PRESS ON GIARDIASIS CONTRACTED IN SOVIET UNION WERE PLANTED ON EVE OF TOURIST SEASON TO DISCOURAGE AMERICANS FROM TRAVELING TO SOVIET UNION. NEW YORK TIMES MAY 12 ARTICLE CONTAINS STATEMENT BY DR. MYRON G. SCHULTZ OF CDC ATLANTA THAT US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OFFICIALS STAND BY THEIR FINDINGS IN REGARD TO CONTRACTING OF GIARDIASIS IN SOVIET UNION.

4. IN VIEW OF THIRD PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE, WHICH BRINGS OUR COOPERATION INTO ISSUE FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND IN VIEW OF AMBIGUITY OF BURGASOV'S INVITATION, YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WHOLE QUESTION WITH BENEDIKTOV AND SHEHEPIN.

RUSH

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